

THE STATE.

JAMES GILMORE'S CRIME.

He Strangles His Employer's Wife, and Then Suicide.

John McDowell, a farmer in Tyrone township, Kent county, went hunting on the morning of Dec. 14, leaving his wife, a comely woman of 31, to care for the house, and James Gilmore, his hired man, to look after the farm work. About noon Mr. McDowell returned home and found his wife dead upon the floor, with her eyes and tongue protruding from her head and a tightly twisted strap about her neck. She had evidently been choked to death after a desperate struggle, as indicated by the condition of her clothing and the disorder of the furniture.

The horrified husband gave the alarm, and, aided by the neighbors who responded to his calls, began a search of the premises. They soon found the body of Gilmore in a timber lot across the road from the house. His breast and neck were torn open by a chain shot from a musket which lay beside him. The surroundings indicated that he placed the muzzle of the gun against his breast with the butt on the ground and had pulled the trigger with his foot.

There is no settled theory of what led to the awful tragedy, but it is supposed that Gilmore, having been failed in an attempt to commit a felonious assault on the woman, became enraged and killed her to prevent her telling of his crime, and then, seeing that he would surely be arrested for her murder, took his own life. Gilmore had worked for McDowell several years, and was a good farm hand, but this time has long been a bitter and careful shore for Mrs. McDowell than was wise for them both. However, no positive proof of this is shown as yet.

Michigan Failing Behind.

The executive committee of the supreme council, Order of Chosen Friends, met in Indianapolis a few days ago to consider the schism which has been occasioned by certain members in Michigan. T. B. Linn, supreme recorder, has just returned from a visit to Michigan, where he went to investigate the trouble. In his report he shows that the risks in Michigan have never been good. Wayne Council, in which the disaffected, has paid into the order \$14,000, and during the first half of the present year and up to the time of the revolt, Michigan paid into the relief fund, through eleven assessments, \$13,323.55, while \$20,000 was paid into the fund in the state of Michigan. The rebellious grand officers in Michigan were suspended.

Michigan Interested.

Arrangements have been perfected for a new permanent route by rail and water from Minneapolis to the seaboard, the Flint & Pere Marquette company being the principal agent in the agreement. It is proposed, in connection with the Green Bay, Winona and St. Paul railway, and the Milwaukee, Lake Shore & Western, to establish a line by way of Monticello, Wis., Ludington and Port Huron, Michigan, and Buffalo, over the Grand Trunk to New York by the Delaware Lackawanna and Western. The distance to New York by this route will be 31 miles shorter than by any other route.

George is in the Soup.

The 16-year-old daughter of J. L. Woods, living five miles north of Atlanta, Mont. money county, was engaged to marry George Corey, and the latter went to Hillman one day last week to secure a license. During his absence, Joseph Matheson, who had been keeping company with the girl, heard of the proposed marriage and called at the house. Without much difficulty he persuaded the girl to go to Atlanta, and a license being procured, they were married. When Corey returned, and discovered how he had been fooled he was exceeding wrath.

BRIEF MENTION.

Manistique will have a roller curtain factory.

There are two Indian girl students in Alma college.

George Beakes, village marshal of Trenton, is missing.

The Marine hospital at Detroit is to have a \$20,000 annex.

Ionia will have free delivery service on and after Jan. 1.

Dinwiddie is racing in the vicinity of Holland, Ottawa county.

The postoffice at Reynolds, Montcalm county, has been discontinued.

Miles Stiles of Shepherd has been arrested for illegal whisky selling.

The American federation of labor will hold its meeting for 1900 in Detroit.

Averill Burnett of Dexter is dead. He lived on the same farm for 33 years.

Francis Christian of Bluffton, Muskegon county, was 100 years old Dec. 22.

The annual catalogue of Hillsdale college shows 468 students in attendance.

A Grand Rapids spiritualist says that Toot, the missing express clerk, is dead.

The high school building in Potosky was destroyed by fire the other night.

Cincinnati parties will build an elegant club house at St. Clair Flats next season.

John Rich, a Lenawee county horse thief, has been sentenced to one year in Jackson.

Three miners were buried by a fall of ground at Iron Mountain the other morning.

Rev. D. L. Loefer, for 68 years a Methodist minister, died in Flint the other day.

Miss Mattie Taylor of Eau Claire, Berrien county, has gone as a missionary to Japan.

Mrs. Lavinia Chipman, who settled in Jackson in 1835, died in that city a few days ago.

The Anderson package company, with a capital of \$4,000 is the latest industry at Greenville.

A fruit drier at Martin's Corners, Allegan county, has dried 40,000 pounds of fruit this season.

The Traverse City branch of the C. & W. M. railroad will be ready for business about April 1.

Five young ladies of Kalamazoo, took the well as Sisters of St. Joseph in that city on Sunday Dec. 9.

Democrats of Eaton county met in Charlotte the other day and organized a tariff reform league.

D. McNetten, who is wanted in Lansing for adultery, was arrested in New York city the other day.

Complaint is general throughout the state that farmers are very slow about paying taxes this year.

Nine hundred volumes have been received at Jackson prison to replace the library destroyed by fire.

Congressman Bliss will ask congress for about \$500,000 with which to build a public building in East Saginaw.

Two brothers named Borgfield were instantly killed in the Cleveland mine at Ishpeming the other morning.

Three miners were blown to atoms by a premature explosion in the Osceola mine near Calumet the other day.

The new Epworth M. E. church in East Saginaw which cost \$20,000, was dedicated free of debt on the 15th inst.

Mrs. D. M. Merrill of Coldwater, well-known in Eastern Star lodges and W. C. T. U. circles of the state, is dead.

T. H. Kramer of East Saginaw fell from the roof of the court house in Howell the other day, and was fatally hurt.

P. P. Nichols, ex-registrar of Branch county, and ex-mayor of Coldwater, has disappeared, owing over \$30,000.

Thomas Kelly of Owosso has been sentenced to 15 years in Jackson for killing Stanley Graham about a year ago.

Mrs. Fanny Coville, a well known Lansing lady, and at one time assistant editor of the Lansing Republican, is dead.

A Grand Rapids furniture factory has been obliged to send a man to Uruguay to set up some furniture shipped there.

Ambrose Campbell, one of the most prominent men of the upper peninsula, died at his home in Marquette a few days ago.

Peter Chippewa, an old Indian, was found dead near Mt. Pleasant the other morning. He had frozen to death.

Mrs. Jeremiah Harrington, the first white woman to settle in Port Huron, died in that city a few days ago, aged ninety six years.

The Mexican government refuses to recognize Eugene Fecht of this state, who was released by United States consul at Piedras Negras.

Margaret Stuart Crofoot, wife of J. M. Evans, died in New York recently. The remains were brought to Pontiac for interment.

Hurry Cook, an old man living near Barabram, was robbed of \$30 by two men who entered his house and choked him to death.

R. G. Peters of Manistee, offers \$100 reward to the person who reports the location of the stolen horse and wagon which he goes through the season with the least accidents.

John Loomis, a farmer of Selma township, Wexford county, was killed by a train on the G. & I. road near Cadillac the other day.

Charles Brerly has been sentenced to 12 years in Jackson for the killing of Dan Smith in Boone township, Kent county, last August.

Prof. Crandall of the agricultural college, has accepted a professorship in the botanical department of the Colorado agricultural college.

George Dwight, a convict at Ionia, who assaulted and tried to kill another convict named James Means, is to be tried in the Ionia courts.

George Seagrave, steward of the asylum at Pontiac, has become insane, but the medical staff of the asylum think his affliction not serious.

Miss Cora Russell of Ithaca will take a two years course at the Deaconesses' home in Chicago, and devote her life to missionary work.

Friends of Wright, the Benzie county double murderer, are working hard collecting evidence to help the murderer when the case comes up.

Grand Rapids, Saginaw and Muskegon each offer a 10-acre site to the Chicago pneumatic power and railroad company to locate their plant there.

Mrs. Hedglin and her boy were arrested in Flint while begging. The mother is in jail and the child will be sent to the state public school at Coldwater.

Alex. Erickson, Hugh Millen and Geo. Manning were seriously, perhaps fatally, injured by a falling beam in Hawley's mill in Marquette the other day.

It is said that Gov. and Mrs. Luce, on their return to California, are compelled to ride from Council Bluffs to San Francisco in an emigrant car.

A company has been organized to build a street railway in Flint. Work is to be commenced May 1, next, and the road will be in running order January 1, 1901.

The committee having in charge the establishment of a Congressional college for northern Michigan have agreed upon Honezonia as the proper location for the institution.

The United States supreme court refuses to set aside the verdict of \$1,331 given by the district court in favor of Johnson, who was floored at the Ionia prison by Watkins' orders.

A sand pit 15 feet deep four miles west of Peck caved in the other afternoon, killing John and Alex. MacKellar, aged 24 and 26 years. Four men were buried, but two were rescued.

The annual banquet of the Michigan club, held annually in Detroit Feb. 23, will be held this year Feb. 21, as the 22nd falls upon Saturday.

Ben Ensley, a wealthy resident of Howland city, and for over 30 years a resident of Keweenaw township, Newaygo county, dropped dead in Mother's bank, at Howland the other afternoon.

Frank E. Davis, charged with swindling E. G. Curran of East Saginaw in a land deal of \$50, has been discharged, his father paying Curran the \$50 and liquidating the costs incurred.

John M. Metheny of Grand Rapids, superintendent of the northern division of the G. & I. railroad, died a few days ago, from pneumonia, resulting from an ulcerated throat.

The Northern express company which was organized to handle the express on the "No. 1" line, has collapsed, and the American express company has signed a contract to handle the express on that line.

Robert Johnson, chief clerk in the passenger office of the G. & I. railroad, dropped dead of apoplexy at Detroit. Hugh R. has disappeared with \$5,000 to \$8,000 of the company's funds.

Reuben Skinner of Plainfield, Kent county, 55 years old, has just procured a license to marry Angeline Scott, who is 64 years of age. Reuben was first married in 1825, and his wife lived until a year ago.

Hetty Martin a colored woman, died in the Washburn county poor house a few days ago, aged 110 years. Hetty said she was large enough to "wash dishes when Washington and his army was around."

Col. George P. Sanford has \$25,000 worth of libel suits against the Lansing Journal. He was afraid that he would not get justice in Ingham county, and has asked for a change of venue, which has been granted.

During a terrible storm the other night the express train on the Detroit, Bay City & Alpena railroad had to stop twenty-five times between Alger and Alpena to cut away trees which had blown across the track.

In the suit of a man named Glawn of Stanton against the Toledo, Saginaw & Michigan railway in the circuit court there the jury rendered a verdict in favor of Glawn, giving him judgment for \$45,000.

Cladus B. Grant, judge of the twenty-fifth circuit, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted. The governor has not decided whether to fill the vacancy by appointment or call a special election.

Frank Anderson, who was recently acquitted of the charge of burning the Charlevoix county court house, has been arrested on a charge of perjury, preferred by a man whom he said knew all about who fired the building.

On the Saginaw docks there is a total of 199,828,000 feet of timber, of which 30,805,000 is sold. Bay City docks have 120,360,000 feet, 47,471,000 sold. This is 2,000,000 feet more than was upon the docks one year ago.

Hon. Daniel Barber of Vermontville, celebrated his 90th birthday recently. Mr. Barber, who has lived in Vermontville for more than half a century, was Eaton county's first representative in the legislature.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BILLS BY THE BUSH.

Nearly Eleven Hundred Introduced in the House in One Day.

Matters of General Interest.

Correspondent of this paper.

The other day there were 1,064 bills introduced in the house, many of them being duplicates, if not in language, at least in the subject matter of their provisions. A dozen or more had reference to the educational bill, and the silver coinage forward with no less than twenty for the free coinage of silver. Every member from the tobacco-growing states was armed with a bill asking for the repeal of the tobacco tax, which many were even more determined and asked for the total abolition of the internal revenue system.

In this flood of bills Michigan men rode on the crest of the waves. Gen. Cutcheon had his pocket full of military bills. He was promoted or discharged for sickness contracted in the service, to have the remaining \$75 of his bounty, and thinks there is a great need of modifying the pension laws, and that the bills he has introduced will bring about all these changes.

Representative Allen believes that when a soldier underwent a medical examination at the time of his enlistment and served 60 days, that should be prima facie evidence that he was physically sound when he enlisted, and be taken for granted upon his application for a pension, and his bill is intended to make it so.

Mr. Brewer was on hand with a score of private bills, and presented a bill asking for one cent post-off, a committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic, a four years tenure of office for postmasters, collectors, etc., and a provision for the relief of the Michigan military academy for loss of government arms by fire.

Representative Allen has introduced a very important pension measure. It makes the fact of enlistment and service for 60 days afterward conclusive proof as the physical soundness of a soldier at the time of enlistment.

The list presented by Representative Bliss embraces a number of private bills: to allow re-rating in certain pension cases, and to correct certain irregularities in the pension laws.

O'Donnell's offering consisted almost exclusively of private pension bills, and a petition from the commercial travelers of Michigan for an amendment to the interstate commerce law.

Congress has been authorized to offer a reward of \$3,000 for the arrest of Silcott, the ascending casinier.

Representative Chipman has introduced his bill providing for the construction of a high bridge across the Detroit river.

The special house committee investigating the Silcott defalcation has agreed upon a report by the terms of which an appropriation will be asked to make good the losses sustained by the members of the house.

The senate has confirmed the nominations of David J. Brewer of Kansas, associate judge of the supreme court; William Walter Phelps minister to Germany; Thomas Anderson of Ohio, minister to Bolivia; Francis Douglass minister to Haiti; A. Louis Snowden of Pennsylvania, minister to Greece; Warner P. Sutton of Michigan, consul general at Nuevo Laredo.

The committee appointed to investigate the condition of affairs in the office of the sergeant-at-arms in general, and Silcott's rascality in particular, is hard at work. Considerable testimony has already been taken, and that of a very damaging character.

The notes which Silcott is accused of having forged and afterwards taken up at the Metropolitan National bank near \$5,000, the same amount in their aggregating about \$15,000.

The status of the sergeant-at-arms is a stumbling block of no mean proportions to a thorough examination. One member of the committee says that it is decided that the sergeant-at-arms is a laboring officer, then a serious question at once arises as to how the individual deposits and accumulated salaries of the members are to be regarded; while if it is held that the sergeant-at-arms is not a laboring officer, then the extent of his agency and other vexatious questions must be at once settled. The developments already made show an astonishing looseness in the financial transactions of the office. The test of the committee is to see how the financial affairs of the office, leaving everything to Silcott. The evidence shows that Mr. Leedom neglected to count his cash, and attended the financial affairs of the office. He is severely criticized for this, and for the practice he had of allowing members to discount notes on their salaries before they were due, and in many cases allowing members to overdraw their salaries.

It is also alleged that both Leedom and Silcott were fond of attending the races and betting, and that Leedom knew of this habit of his cashier and of the fast life he was leading.

It is indefinite when the committee will finish the work. It is proposed by the committee that the matter be sent to the Court of Claims for adjustment, and that the house in the matter of reimbursing the members be guided by the decision of the court, and this course may be adopted as the most expeditious way of settling the matter.

Supt. Porter will spend about a week in New York and Philadelphia, where the special agents in charge of the collection of statistics relative to manufactures and other things have their headquarters, and Michigan appointment will not be made until after his return.

The Mexican government refuses to recognize Eugene Fecht, formerly of Port Huron, as United States consul at Piedras Negras, and in appointment must therefore be withdrawn. Senators Stockbridge and McMillan called at the state department the other day, and recommended Col. McCleary of Flint for the position. The salary is \$4,600 per annum.

Samuel H. Row of Lansing and John H. Damon of Millington both think that the general superintendent of census for the cities and towns having a population of not less than 3,000, or where the postoffice has shown a gross revenue of \$5,000 for the previous fiscal year. Should such a bill become a law, about 35 Michigan cities would be entitled to free delivery.

Charges of unfair and unjust treatment of passengers from Canada at the port of Detroit having been made, Secretary Winland addressed rather a sharp letter to Collector Campau, and this will undoubtedly be followed by a request for Campau's resignation. Senator McMillan is pleased that the collector has been reprimanded, and says that such a course should be pursued in the case of every official who abuses the privileges of his office. All things considered, it is not improbable that a change will soon be made at the port of Detroit, and should this occur no time will be lost in weeding out the subordinates who have brought the administration of the office into disrepute.

Gen. Alger has written Representative Cutcheon and Superintendent Porter calling their attention to the advisability of enlarging the scope of the enumeration of soldiers in the census. Gen. Alger says the returns should show the amount of pension received, if any; the names of the battles in which the soldier participated; whether he was wounded or not, and whether he appears to be entitled to a pension in comfortable circumstances, or whether there is want to be relieved. Gen. Cutcheon will confer with Gen. Porter, and there is a probability that a bill will be introduced enlarging the subjects of inquiry to the utmost limit consistent with the best working of the census bureau.

The new extradition treaty with England, drafted by Secretary Blaine and the British minister, has been sent to the senate. By its terms the number of extraditable offenses is largely increased, the most important addition being that of embezzlement, so that if the treaty be ratified Canada and the United States will cease to exchange a class of undesirable residents who have hitherto secured immunity from punishment.

Representatives Bliss and Wheeler are straining every nerve to secure at this session appropriations for public buildings at East Saginaw and Lansing, and the success of their efforts is not improbable.

William H. Smith, a colored man, for a long time assistant librarian of the house of representatives, has been promoted to be librarian.

The senate has confirmed the nomination of David J. Brewer of Kansas, as associate justice of the supreme court.

GENERAL.

Two thousand longshoremen at Savannah, Ga., are on a strike.

The senate has confirmed Gen. Raum as commissioner of pensions.

Both branches of the North Dakota legislature have passed the prohibitory law.

Oliver Johnson, the veteran editor and abolitionist, died in Brooklyn a few days ago.

The Minnesota lumber cut will be from 20,000,000 to 100,000,000 feet more this year than last.

The attorney of the District of Columbia will commence proceedings against Silcott for grand larceny.

An explosion in a nitro-glycerine factory near Butler, Pa., the other morning, caused the death of two men.

One thousand four hundred and ten dollars were stolen from the National bank at Pawtucket, R. I., the other night.

Three men were instantly killed and four seriously injured by a railroad accident near Graham, Mo., the other day.

William Sheets Harrison, a nephew of President Harrison, died at his home in Forest, near Chicago, a few days ago.

Mrs. Margaret Dillard convicted with her paramour of murdering her husband, has been sentenced to be hanged at Easton, Pa.

Chicago's big auditorium, which cost \$300,000, was dedicated Dec. 9. President Harrison and Platt were the principal attractions.

In a letter to the Brooklyn single tax club, Grover Cleveland expresses the hope that New York state will soon adopt a single tax reform law.

The mayor of Salt Lake City, the county clerk, county surveyor and several other officials have been arrested for alleged frauds in disbursing public lands.

The Globe iron works of Cleveland, and the Illinois steel company of Chicago, have amalgamated, and will soon begin steel ship-building on a large scale in Chicago.

The New York supreme court has dismissed an injunction to prevent the municipal authorities from interfering with electric wires. Work will begin at once in New York city to put wires underground.

Because Joseph Porter refused to take a drink with Marion Crowell at Centerville, Pa., Crowell shot him dead. The man had been friends but Crowell was crazed with liquor.

A 10-year-old boy found a box under a sidewalk in St. Paul which contained the lost will of Thos. H. Harrison, who died recently, leaving property valued at upwards of \$1,000,000. The box had been sealed with burglar's tags.

Simcoe Davis, a citizen of Bloomington, Ill., was being tried on the charge of insanity. Davis' brother was the complaining witness. During the investigation he became suddenly and violently insane, and strong measures were required to restrain and take him to jail. Simcoe Davis was found insane.

Franklin B. Gowen, a well known lawyer of Philadelphia, formerly president of the Reading railroad company, was found dead in his room at Wornley's hotel in Philadelphia, with a bullet wound in the head. No reason is known for the suicide.

A meeting of the club National, the leading liberal organization of the province, was held in Montreal the other night. Mr. Gouin, a son-in-law of Premier Mercier, made a stirring speech in favor of annexation, and the meeting voted almost unanimously for the proposition.

George Reddington, the young man who was supposed to have died at Lakin, Kas., and upon whose life there was a policy of \$5,000 in favor of his two partners, is alive. One of the partners has confessed that the scheme was put up to beat the insurance company, and that Reddington was in the plot.

At a banquet in Kingston the other night, Sir John Macdonald replying to the toast, "The Dominion Government," declared for British connection and held that the majority of the Canadian people favored it. He said, however, he would follow severance from Great Britain. No party could ever be formed in Canada, having for its object separation from England, either to go it alone or annex to another land.

The coroner's jury in the Minneapolis Tribune building fire declares that the owners, if not legally responsible, are morally culpable for the loss of life. The jury also recommended that all electric wires in the heart of the city be placed underground, as the network surrounding the building prevented the firemen from raising their escape ladders in time to rescue the inmates.

Myra Arris, aged 30, of Concord, Jackson county, has been awarded \$2,000 by a circuit court jury against Hort Reynolds and Conrad for an alleged criminal assault committed on her Aug. 25, 1899. She said that Reynolds, who is worth \$100,000, came to her room when she was sewing and assaulted her. Reynolds will move for a new trial or appeal to the supreme court.

PARNELL'S SPEECH.

Erin Must Be Built Up by Irishmen.

Parnell delivered a speech in Nottingham a few days ago, in reply to the address of Lord Salisbury.

He declared that there had never been a movement of such magnitude in the country, which was so comparatively free from crime, as the land league movement. The object of the home rule movement, he said, was to regenerate Ireland, especially with regard to her industrial condition.

Continuing, Mr. Parnell said that manufacturers might be developed to such an extent as to take the strain of the land and enable the people to look to other means than farming for gaining a living, but the idea was not tenable that Ireland could be governed by England promoting her industries. Irishmen themselves must promote Irish industries, by building harbors, cleaning out the channels of rivers and reclaiming waste lands, not at the expense of the English exchequer, but of the Irish exchequer. He said that the efforts of local and individual enterprise and with private capital, Mr. Balfour's plan of making railways through impoverished districts was a vain expenditure of money. Home rule would mean National regeneration, and this implied the regeneration of industries and the industrial and commercial spirit of the people.

If home rule were granted it would not discourage the rich people of England from promoting industrial developments, but the money would be judiciously and advantageously employed instead of being wasted, as now, to maintain in power a government of fraud and trickery. Expenditure of that sort would enable Ireland to get and keep her head above water and to exercise and develop the qualities of her people that she would be no longer an exhibition for the wonder and scorn of the nations of the world.

Mr. Parnell would not say that it would be impossible to govern Ireland by coercion, but Balfour's mixture of coercion and constitutionalism would never succeed. Mr. Balfour had made several mistakes among them was that he had neglected to provide for the arrears of rent and the restitution of evicted tenants. This had led to the formation of a new agrarian movement which would sweep Balfour's proposals away as chaff is swept before the whirlwind.

If the government had nothing to be ashamed of in its connection with the Times doctored it would gladly surrender by making known the truth of the matter. The country wanted to know how far the government had gone in a course so mean and so thoroughly contrary to the English spirit as to attack men from ambush and by the use of such disreputable instruments. He knew the letters were forgeries, but he would rather have died than have accepted the vindication the government offered him. The Parnell commission, in the Irish parliament, had tried the Irish nation and the movement of the Irish party.

Mr. Parnell declares that all talk about a Protestant minority being animated by a spirit of hostility to an Irish parliament and opposing it, or Catholics expressing Protestants is fallacious. He further declares that the modified home rule, as proposed by Mr. Gladstone, is preferable to Gratian's scheme, which contained several elements of friction.

THEY MEAN BUSINESS.

A National Convention of Colored People Called.

One of the most important moves the colored people have taken in a long time in advocacy of their rights is about coming to the surface. A national convention has been called to be held in Washington the first Monday in February, for the purpose of taking some action to remedy their wrongs and obtain the exercise of all political and civil rights and privileges of American citizens as are guaranteed them by the constitution and laws of the United States. The objects to be attained by this convention are:

1. To organize a national association of colored American citizens by which a united and continuous effort as it be made to relieve them from the personal outrages inflicted upon them in the southern states and to obtain all the rights of American citizens now denied them in parts of the country.
2. To ascertain the opposing influences that retard the growth of their educational, moral and material interests in the country.
3. To invoke congress to pass such legislation as will enable the colored Americans to exercise the right of franchise in the southern states without fear of molestation; to pass a bill to pay the depositors of the Freedman's bank in full for their deposits.

The colored clergy in Washington and other cities have endorsed the scheme, and this sentiment extends over the whole of the country. The matter is deemed of such importance to the colored people that instructions have been sent to all prominent people of that race throughout the country to leave no stone unturned that will in any way to accomplish the desired object.

Mr. Pledger of Georgia advises the colored people not to permit themselves to be enumerated by the census takers in 1890, but to "take to the woods" when they come round. His argument is, that as the colored people are not allowed to vote in the south, they are now unjustly counted as voters in making up the number of congressmen allotted to the states, and they should not be counted in the next census the congressional representation of the south in the new apportionment would be reduced to its proper dimensions.

Civil Service to be Investigated.

The executive committee of the national civil service reform association has decided to investigate the workings of the civil service law.

The whole investigation will be conducted in a strictly non-partisan manner. The committee will open its offices in Washington and will employ the help necessary to accomplish their aim. Hon. William Dudley Foulke of Indiana will be chairman of the committee, and his associates will be Hon. Sherman H. Hays of Illinois, Charles Bonaparte of Baltimore, Richard H. Dana of Boston, and Hon. Wayne Mac Veigh of Philadelphia.

FOREIGN.

Spain refuses to entertain any proposition for the sale of Cuba.

Printers throughout Germany and Switzerland are on a strike.

The influenza epidemic is spreading throughout Central and Southern Germany.

The university in Odessa has been closed because of the riotous conduct of the students.

A number of high officials have been banished from Corea for attempting to kill the king.

A battle occurred near Zanzibar between the Germans and Bushies, in which 28 of the latter were killed.

The new loan for the Mexican government has been subscribed for in London.

The governor of Kioff has closed twenty Catholic churches in that province, and refuses to give his reasons for so doing.

A French and Belgian syndicate is about to build a railroad from a point on the lower Congo River to the French Congo possessions, with the object of working the copper districts of Katanga. The engineer will have charge of the construction of the road will shortly start for Africa.

John A. Van Dam of Anchorage sued Rev. Father John H. McDevitt, the Catholic priest of that place, for slander, and has been awarded a verdict of \$2,500 and costs. The priest's offense consisted in saying from the pulpit that Van Dam was a bigamist.